

GP 1652  
6A  
6-23-99

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

) Group Art Unit: 1652

Tripp et al.

RECEIVED

) Examiner: Schnizer, H.

JUN 21 1999

Serial No.: 09/003,574

) AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Filed: January 6, 1998

) UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and § 1.121

Atty. File No.: 2618-21-1-C1

For: "NOVEL PARASITE ASTACIN  
METALLOENDOPEPTIDASE  
PROTEINS"

<p>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</p> <p>I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO BOX ASSIGNMENT, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON THIS <u>9</u> DAY OF <u>June</u>, 1999.</p> <p>SHERIDAN ROSS P.C.</p> <p>SIGNATURE: <u>Bonnie B. Ludlow</u></p>
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Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This Amendment and Response is filed in response to the Office Action dated March 12, 1999.

Please reconsider the application as follows:

Please cancel Claims 2-7, 9, 10, and 14 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Please amend the Claims without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof as follows:

1. (Once amended) An isolated protein [comprising a parasite astacin metalloendopeptidase protein] encoded by a nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes under stringent conditions to the complement of a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleic acid sequence selected

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